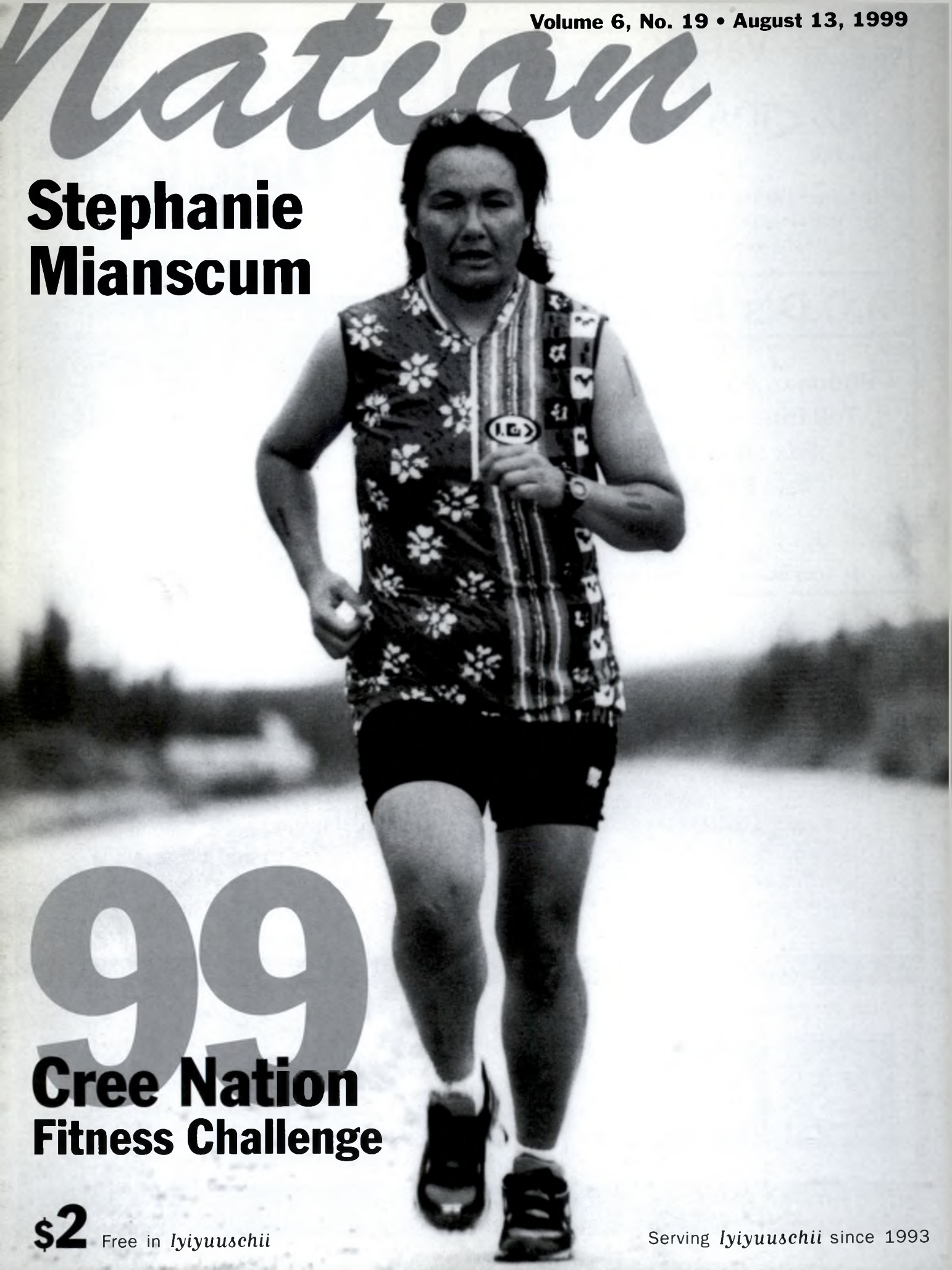
Volume 6, No. 19 • August 13, 1999

Nation

Stephanie Mianscum



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The other side of the table

I was nominated for the position of Deputy Grand Chief in Mistissini for this term's election. I decided to accept and run for this position seriously.

I have done so because I care about what has happened to the Cree people. I have spoken out on many issues, as I feel every individual must. But there must be a point at which you are willing to start a process to deal with the issues. I feel I have provided information that in my personal knowledge and opinion was the truth. This was part of the process I felt, but wasn't enough.

It was brought home to me one day when I was talking to Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come who said it was easy to talk or write about things that the Grand Council or Chiefs were doing but I should try the other side for a change.

I did not take this as an endorsement of candidacy, but rather telling me to put myself in the hotspot, so to speak.

I think most of what I believe in has already been in *The Nation* as an editorial or two. (During the election, I will not be writing any more editorials as it may be seen as unfair.)

I believe in taking a harder line with Quebec when they try to step on Cree rights. I want the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement to be respected and fully implemented. These are things that I am sure any candidate supports.

I also want to make the Grand Council more open to the people. In order to do this I would try to make sure there is a Grand Council presence at every local annual general assembly in the communities in order to answer questions and give information.

In short I want a more open Grand Council/ Cree Regional Authority. One that would listen to all Crees regardless of age or sex, and one that would be seen as being totally accountable to the people.

Election reform would be part of my agenda. Two weeks is not long enough to have an election platform that every Cree would know. As it stands, I feel the elections are more of a popularity contest than anything else. I would want a longer period so people can get to know the candidates and their concerns and issues.

I would say no to any more intrusions by Hydro-Quebec until all past agreements are fulfilled and implemented. Only then would we even conceive of considering anything else.

I think there should be a program in place where we utilize studies such as the human resource study. It looked at needs of the Crees in human resources for the present and future. These should be sent to the schools to help students determine their futures. It is no use having people studying for non-existent positions.

We have to also make use of students coming back. There are many, but they aren't getting into the Cree workforce as fast as they should. We need to develop policies and initiatives for them.

Youth who need skills should have a way to attain them. In the United States there is a program called YouthBuild. It takes youth and teaches them how to build houses. This is done through a number of U.S. government-funded programs. This deals with two problems at once, housing and life-skills training. We need to start looking at these types of models to help our communities grow and prosper.

This in short is part of why I decided to run for the position of Deputy Grand Chief. I offer my best wishes in advance for all candidates running for Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chief.

by William Nichols

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Stephanie Mianscum, first place (women) in Nemaska Fitness Challenge

Photographer: Neil Diamond
Cover Design: Sylvia Tennisco

rez notes
by Ndiamon

Well, our Rez Notes author is somewhere out in Whapmagoustui, we think. Search parties have been sent out and we'll capture him one way or another for the next issue. In the meantime here is some stuff we stole. We would mention what newspaper we stole it from but we actually don't know. We'll credit them, whenever. Whatever.

This is from a newspaper contest where entrants were asked to imitate "Deep Thoughts by Jack Handey" from the TV show Saturday Night Live...

WINNER

If we could just get everyone to close their eyes and visualize world peace for an hour, imagine how serene and quiet it would be, until the looting started.

RUNNERS UP

It sure would be nice if we got a day off for the prime minister's birthday, like they do for the queen. Of course, then we would have a lot of people voting for a candidate born on July 3 or December 26, just for the long weekends.

...

Home is where the house is.

...

Often, when I am reading a good book, I stop and thank my teacher. That is, I used to, until she got an unlisted number.

...

As you make your way through this hectic world of ours, set aside a few minutes each day. At the end of the year, you'll have a couple of days saved up.

...

Give me the strength to change the things I can, the grace to accept the things I cannot and a great big bag of money.

...

For centuries, people thought the moon was made of green cheese. Then the astronauts found that the moon is really a big hard rock. That's what happens to cheese when you leave it out.

...

I bet living in a nudist colony takes all the fun out of Hallowe'en.

...

The only stupid question is the one that is never asked, except maybe, "Don't you think it is about time you audited my return?" or, "Isn't is morally wrong to give me a warning when, in fact, I was speeding?"

...

Once, I wept for I had no shoes. Then I came upon a man who had no feet. So I took his shoes. I mean, it's not like he really needed them, right?

...

I believe you should live each day as if it is your last, which is why I don't have any clean laundry because, come on, who wants to wash clothes on the last day of their life?

...

I often wonder how come William Shatner (a.k.a. Captain Kirk) isn't as popular a singer as some people think he should be. Then, I remember it's because he sucks.

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Nation

Dead air in Great Whale after SQ letter

There is dead air in Whapmagoostui after a dispute over bingo licenses forced the community's radio station off the air.

The dispute has left other Cree stations and community groups scrambling to protect their main source of funding - bingos.

The problems started last December when the Sûreté du Québec detachment in Whapmagoostui, reacting to a complaint, advised the local radio station it needs a bingo permit from the Quebec government.

The station, on the band lawyer's advice, decided to stop holding bingos and try to get a license, only to learn the government isn't issuing any new licenses until 2000.

With its only source of funding gone, the station gradually cut back its on-air hours after Christmas, until money ran out altogether this summer. The station went off the air July 1. It had to lay off its two full-time employees and two part-timers.

Making the problems worse, the local telecommunications association, which runs the station, hasn't had a meeting in months, making it harder for the station to deal with the crisis, said Frances George, the station manager.

George said many of the non-profit association's members signed a petition requesting an assembly of the membership to discuss the problems. It hasn't been held.

The station also asked local and regional organizations for help, but didn't get much response - except for a temporary grant from the band, which has run out. George said the band is now helping the station find other solutions.

The same problems may soon be felt in the other Cree communities, where numerous organizations are heavily dependent on bingos and draws held without government permits.

"That's something we really have to look into now," said a radio station manager in another Cree community, requesting anonymity. "We don't have a permit either."

Staff from the Cree radio stations discussed the issue at a meeting of the James Bay Cree Communications Society last month in Wemindji. Susan Villeneuve, a lawyer for the Cree Regional Authority, was brought in to talk about what to do.

She told JBCCS members the SQ can come into the Cree communities at any time to raid groups that hold unlicensed bingos.

Under Quebec law, all public bingos that offer a prize require a license. The license allows for one weekly bingo of $501 to $3,500 in prizes, plus a special bingo twice a year with prizes of $3,501 to $5,000.

The government charges a $100 fee for the one-year license, plus $28 per each bingo or $39 if there are "surprise tickets."

Organizations can also get a recreational bingo license that allows a weekly bingo with $500 or less in prizes, plus a daily bingo of $200 max in prizes. No fees are charged for this type of license.

The law also requires a certain percentage of profits to be given out as prizes.

Ginette McMee, spokeswoman for the Régie des alcools, des courses, et des jeux, the provincial agency that governs bingos, confirmed that if a group holds a bingo without a license, the SQ could get involved.

by Alex Roslin

Permit? What permit?

First Nations across the province are largely ignoring Quebec's bingo law, or they have found ways to get around it.

In Kahnawake, the CKRK radio station has a defiant attitude toward the Quebec government's bingo permits.

"They can't come into the territory to impose any licenses on us," said Heather Bauersfeld, the station's manager. "They have absolutely no jurisdiction here, nothing. They can't even step a foot on our border. It would cause a war."

Bauersfeld said CKRK gets 40 per cent of its funds from bingos.

Bingo is the main source of funds - often the only source - for radio stations in Quebec's Inuit and Innu communities. None of them have bingo permits either.

In Mani-Utenam, the Innu radio station was slapped with a $4,000 fine in 1997 after someone called the SQ to complain about a "jackpot bingo" with $32,000 in prizes. Station manager Yves Rock was also personally hit with another $4,000 fine.

Rock said his station now limits its prizes to $15,000 - well above the limit set by Quebec law, but low enough not to attract police attention.

In Whapmagoostui, the Cree radio station was forced off the air a month ago because it doesn't have a bingo license. But the Inuit radio station in the same community is still holding bingos.

Mary-Hannah Angutiguluk, treasurer of the Inuit station, said the Sûreté du Québec has no jurisdiction over the Inuit municipality of Kuujjuarapik. She said the SQ had no business sending a letter last December advising community groups to get bingo permits: "They were not allowed to do that."

When the letter went out, the Inuit station turned to the Makivik Corp.'s lawyers for advice. Angutiguluk said the Kativik Police Force - not the SQ - was deemed to have jurisdiction over the station, and they decided to allow the bingos to go on.

Angutiguluk said Kuujjuarapik signed an agreement with Quebec in 1995 allowing the municipality to issue bingo permits. The Inuit station got such a permit. ***-A.R.***

A MESSAGE

TO THE GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 1999

As the graduating class of 1999 - the last class of this millennium, you have an exciting future ahead of you. You can accomplish your dreams with additional education or skill training. You can travel and learn new approaches to old and new problems. You can change your world.

Your future successes are going to be based on your willingness to envision your dreams and commit to working on seeing them come to reality.

Your parents, family and community will support your efforts - as with your successes we all succeed.

MESSAGE À

L'INTENTION DES DIPLÔMÉS DE LA PROMOTION DE 1999

À titre de diplômé de la promotion de 1999, la dernière promotion de ce millénaire, un avenir exaltant s'offre à vous. En poursuivant vos études ou en entreprenant une formation professionnelle, vous pouvez réaliser vos rêves. Vous pouvez voyager et découvrir de nouvelles approches afin de résoudre des problèmes, anciens et nouveaux. Vous pouvez changer le monde.

Vos réussites futures seront fondées sur votre détermination à visualiser vos rêves et à vous engager à travailler pour faire en sorte qu'ils deviennent réalité.

Vos parents, les membres de vos familles et de votre collectivité soutiendront vos efforts, car vos succès individuels paveront la voie à nos succès collectifs.

GRAD

French Sector
Cynthia Blackned
Sharon Blackned
Jonathan Jolly
Jonathan Tanoush
Charlene Wapachee
Henry Wapachee
John Paul Wapachee

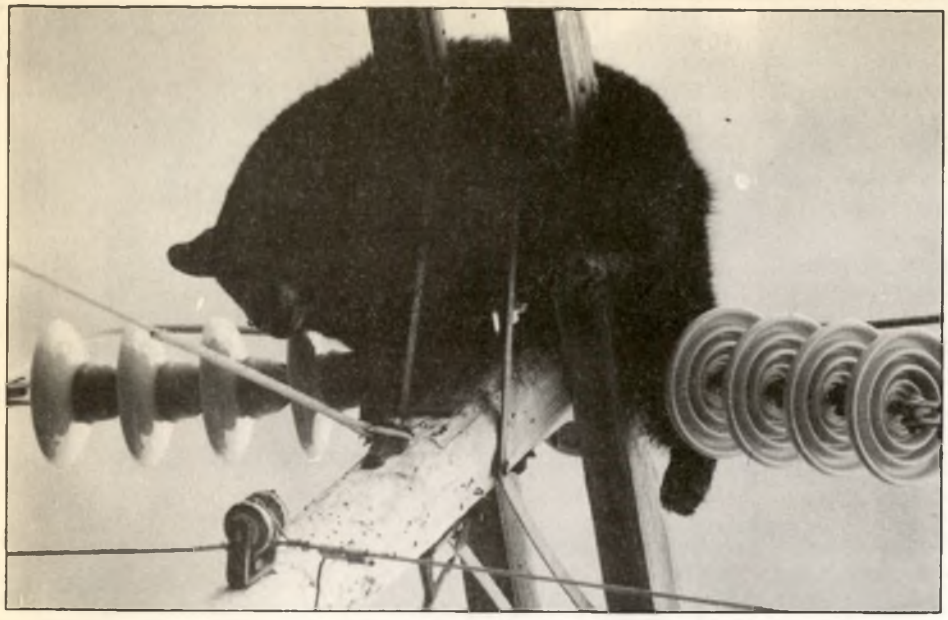
English Sector
Jeremy Diamond
Clarence Jolly
Laura Wapachee
Marcel Wapachee
Mary Jane Wapachee

Secteur français
Cynthia Blackned
Sharon Blackned
Jonathan Jolly
Jonathan Tanoush
Charlene Wapachee
Henry Wapachee
John Paul Wapachee

Secteur anglais
Jeremy Diamond
Clarence Jolly
Laura Wapachee
Marcel Wapachee
Mary Jane Wapachee

Good Luck in your future.
Chief and Council of the Nemaska First Nation

Bonne chance à chacun d'entre vous dans le futur.
Le chef et le Conseil de la Première nation Nemaska



H-Q LEAVES DEAD BEAR ON POLE FOR MONTH

First the ice storm - then came the bear.

Hydro-Quebec has finally removed a deceased black bear from a hydro pole near Radisson, after leaving it to decay for a month in the hot summer weather.

A Hydro-Quebec worker was finally sent up the pole to remove the dead bear on July 22 or 23, according to a Sûreté du Québec officer in Radisson.

The bear, which got electrocuted, was first spotted on June 22. Hydro-Quebec was notified the next day, but didn't act until people in Chisasibi complained.

Hydro-Quebec says its striking unions are to blame for the long delay, but the unions say that's not true and the line-climbers aren't even on strike.

Léon-Marie Hachez, a Hydro spokesman in Radisson, said he didn't know what date the bear was finally taken down.

Hachez blamed the unions for the delay. "Hydro-Quebec has employees who are on strike," he said when asked why it took a month to get the bear down.

He said it was the first time he'd seen an electrocuted bear stuck on a hydro pole in his 20 years living in Radisson.

"Personally, I was very surprised," he said, chuckling. "It's excessively rare that a phenomenon like this happens."

Marc Dion, head of the provincial wildlife office in Radisson, also blamed the delay on Hydro-Quebec's unions. "The union refused to send someone to climb up the line," he said.

He said wildlife staff don't have the authority to climb a hydro pole.

Once the carcass was finally taken down, Dion said wildlife staff buried it in a nearby sand pit.

by Alex Roslin

But union leader Pierre Hadd said Hydro-Quebec is to blame, not his members. "It was completely a decision of management. We sent people as soon as they were requested," said Hadd, who heads the 400-member La Grande section of Hydro's trades union.

Hadd said Hydro's line-climbers aren't even on strike because they are considered essential services.

Close to 15,000 Hydro workers have been on strike for several months and refuse to perform non-essential services.

In another H-Q development, Hadd said the strike has, however, affected the routine upkeep of Hydro's James Bay dam complex.

Hadd confirmed that maintenance and inspections have been sacrificed at Hydro's facilities during the strike - as reported in the last issue of *The Nation*.

He said LG-1, LG-2 and LG-2A are the facilities not being serviced.

Hydro's unions are performing only essential services during the strike, so they don't want to help the utility export power to the United States. But Hydro refuses to stop the power exports. The result is there isn't enough capacity to take any turbines off-line for servicing.

Hadd said he has no idea if the lack of maintenance will mean blackouts next winter, as other union leaders have predicted.

"I can't say how it would affect the facilities. I haven't set a foot in there," he said.

Election season: a fun time for all!

Three closely watched community elections are drawing a lot of speculation.

All eyes are on Waskaganish, where the word is Chief Billy Diamond is not running this time. Is he bowing out to run for Grand Chief or Deputy Grand Chief? That's the rumour in band offices up and down the coast. And who will take over the band, with its run-away deficit? Robert Weistche, chairman of the Cree School Board, and Jack Diamond of the Cree Regional Authority are two of the possible candidates people are talking about.

In Waswanipi, embattled Chief John Kitchen may be facing a wide field of opponents, including possibly his own wife, Flora Kitchen. Last time, Kitchen's two opponents split the votes allowing him to squeeze up the middle. Will it happen again? Nominations open in Waswanipi Aug. 9.

In Wemindji, election time is always an exciting time, spiced up by allegations of irregularities and other weirdness. This year, like last time, someone from the Cree-Naskapi Commission will be present to make sure everything's done by the book.

Nominations are on Aug. 16, with an advance poll Aug. 24 and election day Sept. 14. That leaves a whole month for speeches and promises of jobs. Will long-time Chief Walter Hughboy beat down his critics once again?

New constables sworn in

Five new special constables have been sworn in in Wemindji. For the first time in Iyiyuuschii, a municipal judge, Jacques Barbès of Val d'Or municipal court, presided over the ceremony.

The new constables are Caroline Weapinicappo, Sara-Lee Shashaweskum, Bradley Georgekish, Sean Blackned and Wade Brett Atsynia.

Diabetes bike tour

Les Fontaine and three of his nephews are biking across Canada to raise awareness of diabetes among Native people. His nephews say this is a great way for them to spend their summer vacation, supporting a

continued on page 9

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congratulate

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It is with great pleasure that we

congratulate

our First Graduates of the Waapihtiiwewan School.

For the 1998/99 school year, you made history to the community when you became the First Graduates in the history of Waapihtiiwewan School.

We are proud of your achievement and wish you all the best.

Congratulations *from the Chief & Council of the Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation and its community members.*

CREE NATION OF
WEMINDJI

The Council and staff of the Cree Nation of Wemindji would like to

congratulate

all of this year's graduates in Wemindji and throughout the Cree Nation.

We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all our young people to continue their education.

You are the future of the Cree Nation.

continued from page 7

cause they believe in.

It's easy to see why they believe in this as Fontaine's wife has diabetes. They are stopping at friendship centres along the route to teach people to lead a balanced life: eating healthy and exercising.

He is also promoting NADA, or the National Aboriginal Diabetes Association. NADA is attempting to develop initiatives on prevention, education, research, care and support for Aboriginal peoples. It is the only non-profit, non-government group doing so.

Women's shelter fundraiser a success

A night of fine cuisine featuring Arctic char and caribou was just what the doctor ordered for the Montreal Native Women's Shelter. It was the launch of their "Circle of Friends" fundraising campaign on July 24. A special appearance was made by Claude MacKenzie of Kashtin. As usual he was a crowd pleaser with his music and sense of humour.

All the way from New York came Ojibway global beat artist Wayquay. She was the recent winner of the Best Music Award at the 22nd annual American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco, for her video "Navigate." Dignitaries on hand included Montreal Mayor Pierre Bourque and Alanis Obonsawin.

The shelter thanks everyone who attended. The shelter helps women who have problems with domestic violence or who are homeless. Those wishing to help out the shelter can call (514) 933-4688 and ask for Jean Stevenson.

Correction

We apologize to Joe Jolly, who was incorrectly mentioned in the Mistissini Gathering article last issue as Joe Whiskeychan.

Ojibway global beat artist Wayquay performed at the Montreal Native Women's Shelter gala on July 24.

STOLEN LIFE

Stolen Life: The Journey of a Cree Woman
by Rudy Wiebe and Yvonne Johnson
Alfred A. Knopf: Toronto, 1998

Someone once said the most powerful part of human existence is the human spirit. This is such a story.

This is the life story of a Cree girl named Yvonne, a descendent of Mistahi Muskwa, Big Bear. This story is not so much about what this girl has done, but rather about what the people in her life have done to her. Perhaps some of them are still doing these things to her. We don't know because the story ends, and we hear no more from Yvonne.

Sadly, this is a story that never should have been. It could have been a story about how Yvonne's parents had been healed, so they could nurture, protect and love her in a natural way.

But it's not. Instead, this is the story of a girl who has lived through so many versions of hell, you wonder how she can get up each morning, get dressed, talk, laugh. How can she act like a human, when she's experienced so many inhumane things?

This is also a story of how her family has forsaken her because she's decided to use one of the only gifts the Creator has given her: the ability to speak. After all those many years, the only thing Yvonne can do to protect herself is speak.

Her family thinks she's doing this to hurt them, a sort of a payback. Why has Yvonne decided to break the silence of abuse and pain? For herself? For her children? For her parents, who weren't able to break the silence themselves? She doesn't say, but one thing is certain.

She's spoken because she can.

This should be a story about a woman, a mother, a lover. But Yvonne is none of these; she's still the young girl who was never allowed to develop into the woman the Creator meant her to be. This is the story about those who inflicted their own pain upon a young, defenseless girl and stole her future. How they robbed her of happy memories, leaving her with a sickness where her soul should have been.

This is the story about what this girl became: an adult, but not a woman; a wife, but not a companion; a conceiver, but not a mother. There is no word to describe what this girl turned into. Soulless?

This is the story of what this soulless being did to others around her. The worst however, is what she did to herself. Being so void of anything, she could not even say "help."

This is the story of a woman who has been forced to be alone with just her thoughts for a long time. Forced to share a small space with the soul of the young girl who remained inside of her, waiting for the love she never received. What this woman could not do, this young soul was able to. Half-dead from neglect and disease, the young soul managed to search for something deep within her. Something other than the fear, pain and torture that had filled her for so long that even breathing was made difficult. Deep into the farthest reaches of her being, this soul found the only thing that could potentially save this woman. Not alone but with the help of the Elders, the sweatlodge and praying - this is a story about a soul who found hope. (Nation staff)

Cree Nation Fitness Challenge '99

Randy Shecapio

Swim like a fish...

The challenge. The challenge of swimming, biking, lifting, paddling and running 30-something kilometres as fast as you can. No matter what the weather or what your body tells you. To win you must swim like a fish, bike as fast as a rabbit runs, carry as patiently as a sled dog, paddle like a Cree and run as swiftly as a caribou.

Stanley Neeposh

Cree Nation Fitness Challenge '99

Irene Mianscum

Greg Jolly Jr.

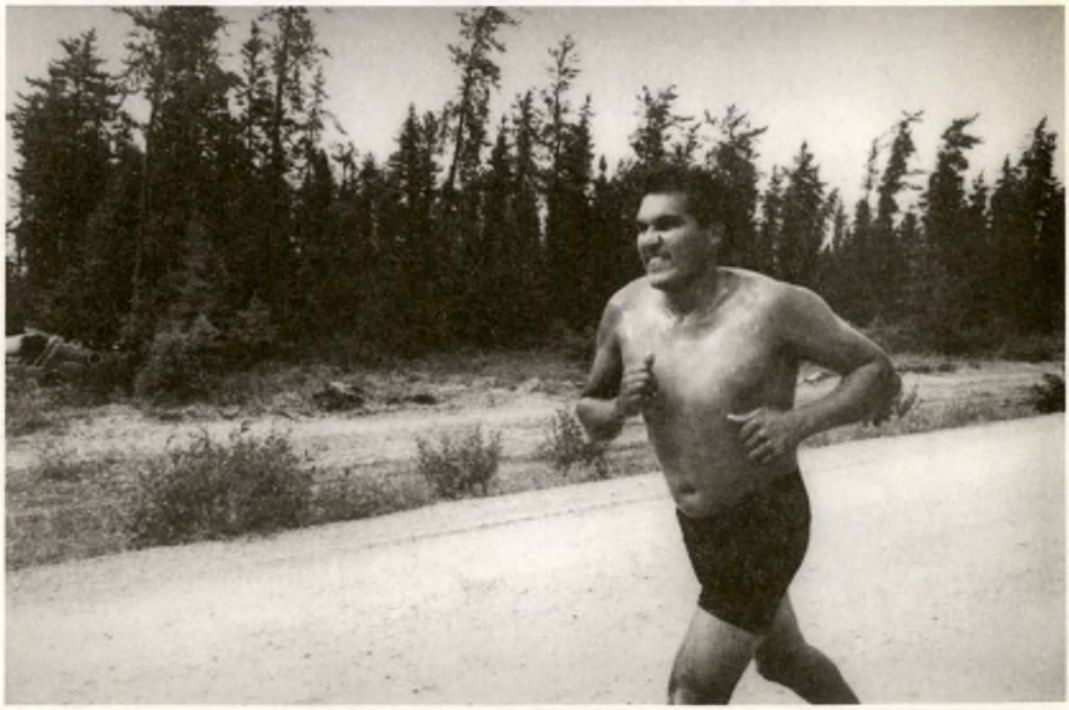
Stephanie Mianscum

Most will tell you, the first leg, swimming, is the most grueling. Indeed, some competitors have panicked and others have swum close to an hour to complete the one-kilometre length just off Nemaska's shore. The swim can decide who comes in the top three.

Mistissini's Kenny Gunner emerged from the water second behind "The Fish," Redfern Cheezo, who is appropriately enough from Nemaska, "The place of many fish" in the Cree tongue. If you finish that close behind The Fish in Nemaska, chances are you will win the race.

There is an old photo of Mistissini's John Gunner crossing the finish line as the first-ever Nemaska Fitness Challenge champion in 1996. John finished the race in an impressive 2 hours 15 minutes 29 seconds. Four years later his younger brother Kenny won the men's race in 2 hours 5 minutes 50 seconds.

Kenny Gunner



Results

Robin McGinely
1:59:08 (1996)
2:06:28 (1999)

Stephanie Mianscum
2:09:45 (1996)
1:55:56 (1997)
2:07:00 (1998)
1:59:44 (1999)

Redfern Cheezo
2:19:36 (1996)
2:15:46 (1997)
2:24:16 (1998)
2:14:01 (1999)

Louis Mianscum
2:14:26 (1997)
2:18:54 (1998)
2:11:22 (1999)

Lina Petawabano

Cree Nation Fitness Challenge '99

Annie Weistche

Louis Mianscum

Cree Nation Fitness Challenge '99

Jimmy Coonishish

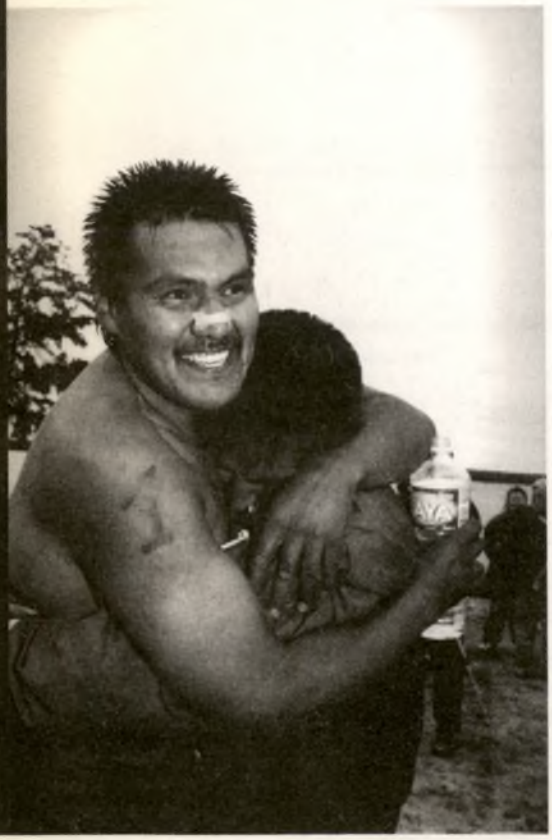
Jimmy Coonishish
2:18:50 (1997)
2:20:53 (1998)
2:19:37 (1999)

Malcolm Tanoush
2:35:48 (1997)
2:32:30 (1998)
2:30:54 (1999)

Suzie Wapachee
2:43:27 (1998)
2:22:46 (1999)

Kenny Gunner
2:05:50 (1999)

Suzie Wapachee



Kenny & John Gunner

The Nation's Reader Survey

Who are our readers and what do they have to say about The Nation?

Please fill out this form, and return to us before **Sept. 3rd, 1999**

by fax: 514-278-9914 or mail to:
The Nation, 5505 Blvd.
St. Laurent,
Suite 3018, Montreal, QC,
H2T 1S6.

Send in your survey and win!

Prize to be announced.

1 Gender:
❒ Male ❒ Female

2 Age:
❒ 0-12 ❒ 18-35 ❒ 51-64
❒ 13-17 ❒ 36-50 ❒ 65+

3 How many people live in your household?
❒ 1 to 2 ❒ 3 to 5 ❒ 6 to 10 ❒ 11 or more

4 How many people in your household fall in these age groups.
__0 - 5 __6 - 12 __13 - 17 __18 - 35
__36 - 50 __51 - 64 __65+

5 How many people in your household work full-time?
❒ 0 ❒ 1 ❒ 2 ❒ 3 ❒4 ❒ 5+

6 How many people in your household work part-time?
❒ 0 ❒ 1 ❒ 2 ❒ 3 ❒ 4 ❒ 5+

7 Your annual income:
❒ $0 to $12,000 ❒ $35,001 to $50,000
❒ $12,001 to $20,000 ❒ $50,001 to $75,000
❒ $20,001 to $35,000 ❒ $75,001+

8 Your household's annual income:
❒ $0 to $12,000 ❒ $35,001 to $50,000
❒ $12,001 to $20,000 ❒ $50,001 to $75,000
❒ $20,001 to $35,000 ❒ $75,001+

9 Your highest level of education completed:
❒ some primary school ❒ cegep diploma
❒ some high school ❒ some university studies
❒ high school diploma ❒ university degree
❒ some cegep studies
❒ other (please specify)_____

10 Do you own a computer? *(if no, go to question 14)*
❒yes ❒ no ❒ don't know

11 Do you have an internet connection?
(If no, go to question 14)
❒yes ❒ no ❒ don't know

12 How many hours per week do you and other members of your household spend connected to the internet?
(sending emails, chatting, finding information, etc.)
❒ 0 to 5 ❒ 11 to 20 ❒ more than 41 hours
❒ 6 to 10 ❒ 21 to 40 ❒ don't know

13 How much do you spend per month on your internet connection bill?
❒$0 to $30 ❒ $51+
❒$31 to $50 ❒ don't know

14 How much do you spend per month on your average phone bill?
❒$0 to $30 ❒ $51 - $100
❒$31 to $50 ❒ $101+

15 Please indicate the number of items you own in your household of the following:
(Answer as many as applies)
__ car __ boat
__ minivan __ Sea Doo
__ pick-up truck __ CD player
__ snowmobile __ Computer
__ ATV __ satellite dish

16 Which of these items have you bought in the last 12 months? *(check as many as applies)*
❒car ❒ CD player ❒ music CD's
❒minivan ❒ computer ❒ Sea Doo
❒pick-up truck ❒ satellite dish ❒ video games
❒snowmobile ❒ home appliances ❒ movie videos
❒ATV ❒ new furniture ❒ boat

17 What items are you planning to buy in the next 12 months? *(check as many as applies)*
❒car ❒ computer ❒ minivan
❒microwave ❒ pick-up truck ❒ satellite dish
❒snowmobile ❒ home appliances ❒ ATV
❒new furniture ❒ boat ❒ clothes
❒Sea Doo ❒ music CD's ❒ CD player
❒video games ❒ movie videos

18 Overall, how much do you spend on gifts over the year? *(birthdays, Christmas, special occasions, etc.)*
❒less than $100 ❒ $1001 to $2000
❒$101 to $500 ❒ $2001 to $5000
❒$501 to $1000 ❒ $5001 +

19 On average, how many times per year do you shop outside your community?

- ❒ never
- ❒ 1 to 5 times
- ❒ 6 to 12 times
- ❒ 13 to 25 times
- ❒ 26 to 50 times
- ❒ more than 51 times

20 When you leave your community to shop, where do you go the most often? *(choose only one)*

- ❒ Chibougamau
- ❒ Val d'Or
- ❒ Amos
- ❒ Radisson
- ❒ Timmins
- ❒ Rouyn-Noranda
- ❒ Montreal
- ❒ Ottawa/Hull
- ❒ Québec city
- ❒ Other: *(please specify)*_____
- ❒ North Bay
- ❒ Sudbury
- ❒ Toronto
- ❒ Matagami

21 How do you usually travel to these places?

(Choose only one)

- ❒ plane
- ❒ bus
- ❒ car
- ❒ other: *(please specify)*_____

22 On the average shopping trip outside of your community, how long do you stay:

- ❒ for only a few hours
- ❒ overnight
- ❒ for a whole week
- ❒ for the weekend
- ❒ longer than a whole week

23 On the average shopping trip outside your community, how much do you spend:

(shopping, food, entertainment, accomodations, etc.)

- ❒ $0 to $100
- ❒ $101 to $500
- ❒ $501 to $1000
- ❒ $1001 to $2000
- ❒ $2001 to $5000
- ❒ $5001 +

24 What do you plan on doing in the next 12 months:

(check as many as applies)

- ❒ get married
- ❒ work more
- ❒ change eating habits
- ❒ quick smoking
- ❒ do more exercise
- ❒ work less / spend more time with the family
- ❒ move
- ❒ have a baby
- ❒ lose weight
- ❒ go on a trip

25 Which Native publications do you read on a regular basis? *Please list*

_____

_____

_____

26 Which non-Native publications do you read on a regular basis? *Please list*

_____

_____

_____

27 Of the above 2 questions, which publication do you read the most? *Please list only one*

_____

28 Please rate The Nation on the following:

"*(1 being poor, 5 being excellent)*"

Providing stories that are accurate

1	2	3	4	5
very poor	poor	satisfactory	good	excellent

Providing stories that are of interest

1	2	3	4	5
very poor	poor	satisfactory	good	excellent

Providing stories that are important

1	2	3	4	5
very poor	poor	satisfactory	good	excellent

29 What would you like to see more of in The Nation?

- ❒ news
- ❒ movie reviews
- ❒ family features
- ❒ reviews
- ❒ arts & entertainment
- ❒ health
- ❒ home decorating
- ❒ women's issues
- ❒ Cree legends
- ❒ product reviews
- ❒ cultural features
- ❒ sports
- ❒ video game
- ❒ politics
- ❒ internet information
- ❒ education
- ❒ classified ads
- ❒ fashion
- ❒ music reviews

30 Please answer the following questions by circling a number.

(1 means you strongly disagree, 5 means you strongly agree)

The Nation is the best source of information about news that affects James Bay.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neither agree nor disagree	agree	strongly agree

I like to read The Nation each issue.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neither agree nor disagree	agree	strongly agree

I think other Native papers offer more important information than The Nation.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neither agree nor disagree	agree	strongly agree

I think other non-Native papers offer more important information than The Nation.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neither agree nor disagree	agree	strongly agree

Answer this section only if you wish:

31 Name:

_____

32 Address:

_____

_____

_____

Our friend

There comes a time in our lives when someone comes into our lives who makes our whole lives better just because he is your friend, a friend who listens, who comments but does not judge. Yet sometimes we are ignorant ourselves not to fully appreciate them when they are still among us. I am sorry to say that I had a good friend once, a friend who I miss because I didn't really take the time to let him know that I love him as my friend and he was appreciated for just being who he is.

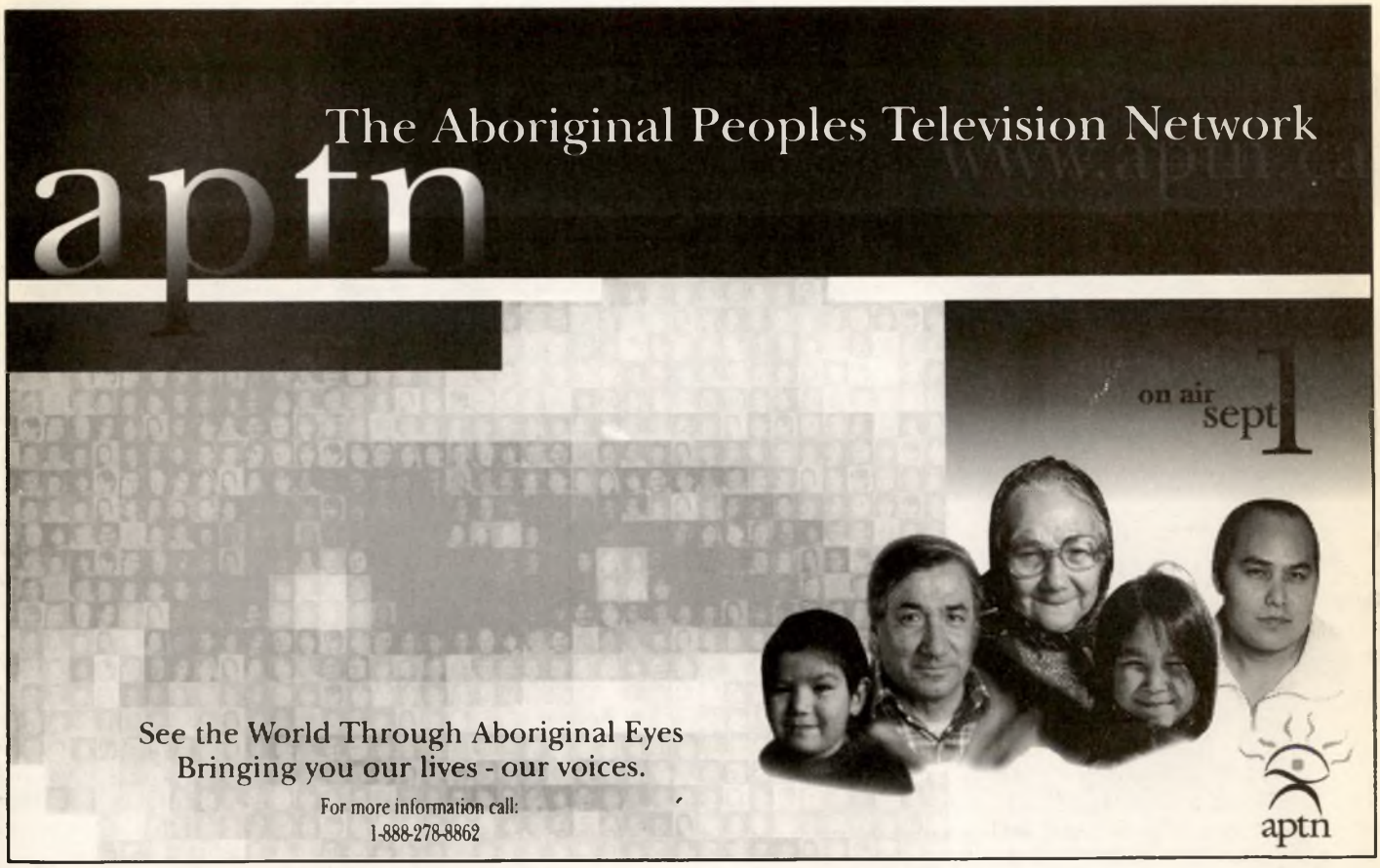
I know now that love and friendship aren't things you plan on weekly or by the month. We live by day, as frightening as it is that we may not be among the living the next day, so we must take the time to let each other know that we are appreciated for being a friend.

I thank God for the friend he gave me, a friend whose company I enjoyed every minute I spent with him, a friend's smile that shone every time you saw him. He was common to us in a way that made us equal. He was not perfect but kind-hearted enough to have our trust, love and friendship. When I went to go see him I knew what he was up to right away; he'd be sitting in front of his TV playing his video games. Now all we have left of him is just memories of the way he was. I believe his time was over with us, that God wanted a soldier with good values of a person's nature, that he chose our friend to be that soldier.

Love and hate are real in our world. What makes us who we are in life is what we had made for us in our own lives. Also it is possible that we learn things in life from each other. What I learned from my friend is forgiveness. He knew he wasn't fully respected but had the kindness that gave him understanding to forgive what wrong had been done. That is what I truly loved about him. I can't expect myself to change overnight. Some things in life we have to work at to achieve just like the way we learned to walk.

I am sorry he left so suddenly without good-bye. He had left with us his good nature that we can all learn from...

Dedicated to the memory of Randy Anderson Wapachee, a good friend who is sorely missed and will remain forever in our hearts always. We love you, from your friends in Nemaska... God bless!!!



THE NATIVE MUSICIAN SURVIVAL GUIDE

A checklist for success

BY DARREN BONAPARTE

This article is reprinted from Aboriginal Voices magazine.

There is nothing more fulfilling in life than being a Native American musician. You fly with eagle wings when you're onstage at the Native American outdoor music festival, strumming that guitar and belting out a tune straight from your aorta. You are medicine for the soul, the hope of your future generations and a spokesman for half a millennium of survival. But to get to that point you have to make sure you have checked off the list of things a Native musician must have to make it and be accepted.

First, you will need a name. It must be Native-oriented. Henry Radquist will not do, even if the Radquist name is the most common name on your reservation and has been since Columbus was in daycare. Call yourself Sonny Lightfeather, Johnny Two Bulls, Lisa Snakewater, or something exotic like that. If you are a group, call yourself Medicine Fire or Sacred Arrow. If your name does not immediately evoke a Native theme or image, you will never make it and you will end up in the dust bin of music history, right alongside Bachman Turner Overdrive and Chicago.

You will need to dress properly. This means denim, denim and more denim.

You will need to get your instruments straight. Acoustic guitar is a must, but electric will do as long as it is painted in the same gaudy colours as those cattle skulls people with no taste have hanging in their living rooms. A Native flute is a must as well. You will want to have your flute player following you around at all times, because no non-Native will take you seriously as a Native if they don't hear the flute playing in the distance when you are around.

You will need to dress properly. This means denim, denim and more denim. A wide-brimmed black hat will come in handy, too. Liberally sprinkle turquoise and silver jewelry and don't forget your beaded choker. To complete the effect, wear silver sunglasses to show that even though you are wearing "Indianized" white people clothing, driving "Indianized" white people cars and playing "Indianized" white people music, you are still a straight-out-of-the-woods Indian whose soul can't be stolen by having someone look directly into your eyes.

You will need to write your own lyrics in a specific Native American style. All this means is you will have to add one or more of the following words to your song: sacred, spirit, wisdom, Creator, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother, Earth, trees, Moon, rain, wind, buffalo, raven, warrior, blanket and eagle. Do not use these particular words in this particular combination because this has already been done by Joanne Shenandoah and is copyrighted.

Finally, the music. Stick to three or four chords. Anything beyond that and you are a pretentious sell-out. If Mozart had been born an Indian, he would have done all of his symphonies in four chords, and out of tune at that.

Once you have these things, you will soon be on your way to success in the Native music world. Soon you will be asked to make guest appearances on albums by mainstream artists like Neil Young and Yanni. You may even get to appear in a major motion picture with the likes of Val Kilmer and Lou Diamond Philips. You will be asked to comment on weighty topics like the misappropriation of sacred traditional music, but stay as far away from the pros and cons of casino gambling on Indian reservations. Chances are, your management has lined up 10 or 11 casino gigs for you already.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr. Robert Nault, new Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, and to Minister Jane Stewart, new Minister of Human Resources Development Canada!

Mr. Nault represents the riding of Kenora-Rainy River in Northeastern Ontario. This riding includes Aboriginal communities. He has been a member of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and therefore has knowledge of Aboriginal issues across Canada.

The former Minister, Ms. Jane Stewart, now becomes the Minister of the Department of Human Resources Development Canada. She will therefore have responsibility for the National Daycare Program as well as adult training, unemployment services, the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy and, among other things, she will be in charge of the new federal initiative by HRD Canada, under the Vennet/Moses Process, to implement the HRDC obligations under Section 28 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

We wish Minister Stewart every success in her new appointment!

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GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EEYOU ASTCHEE)
GRAND CONSEIL DES CRIS (EEYOU ASTCHEE)

ᓀᐦᐃᔨᓯᐧ ᑕᕽᒋᒪᓕᒧ
CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE

The youth are out there...

Montreal hosted the 25th annual assembly of Canada's 100-plus native friendship centres in July. The Nation's *own Will Nicholls, who is president of the Montreal friendship centre, was the hosting president.*

First Nations youth from across the country also came to Montreal at the same time to attend the 5th annual Aboriginal Youth Forum. Brent Potski, a youth delegate from Edmonton, tells us about how the youth are getting organized. -Ed

BY BRENT POTSKI

When the United Nations proclaimed 1985 as the International Year of the Youth, it's theme was Participation, Development and Peace. Thus came the establishment of the National Youth Network of Friendship Centres, which gave us a voice for the first time at all National Association of Friendship Centre board of directors' meetings.

In 1994, the Aboriginal Youth Council was established and 1997 saw the Aboriginal Youth Council grow to its largest number with a four-member Executive Board. This included provincial representatives from B.C., Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, a northern representative for the Northwest Territories and Yukon Territories, along with the eastern representative for Quebec, Newfoundland, Labrador and Nova Scotia.

This summer in Montreal, the National Association of Friendship Centres and the Aboriginal Youth Council hosted their 5th Annual Youth Forum, which educated youth from across the nation about the Friendship Centre Youth Movement.

"This is a historical year! We are nationally strong, the youth are always mentioned and the model of the AYC is always encouraged," said youth council president Stacy Hill, who is from Six Nations, Ontario.

Hill said there needs to be more work done at the local friendship centres on youth projects and issues. But she is hopeful that national initiatives will filter down.

She cited the recent federal Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centre initiative that provides local Friendship Centres the ability to develop their youth movement.

"The youth forum was informative," said Larry Linklater, 23, of Kenora, Ont., who also attended the forum.

"I saw a lot of interest in the issues discussed and I think the presentations could have been more articulately developed. There was an honest effort to generate the youth discussions in the working groups and that's where I saw the youth come up with amazing ideas."

Jamie Koeble, vice president of the Aboriginal Youth Council who hails from Lac La Biche, Alberta, is excited about the group's future.

"I see big and exciting projects ahead for the Aboriginal Youth Council and for youth across Canada. Although we started out with baby steps, our leaps are sure to come with the support of the National Association of Friendship Centres. I believe the youth in Canada will benefit with exciting results."

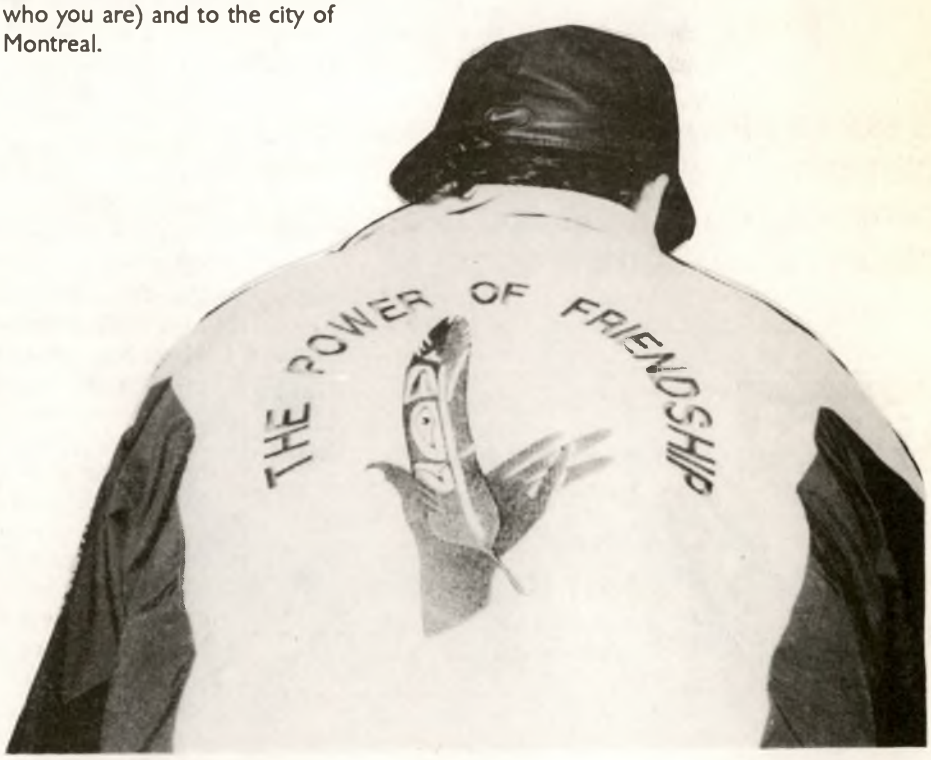
Another great experience for the youth was their right to vote for the three executive positions of secretary, treasurer and vice president of the Aboriginal Youth Council.

And the winners are (drum roll)... Tia Koster of British Columbia wins the position as secretary and the new youth council treasurer is Mark Flemming of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Holding her second reign as vice president is Jaime Koeble of Lac La Biche, Alberta.

That's it for now. Congratulations to the new executive committee members as well as the organizers of the youth forum, the hostess with the mostest (you know who you are) and to the city of Montreal.

Will Nicholls, hosting president for the annual assembly of Canada's native friendship centres, signing Montreal's Golden Book at city hall to kick off the gathering.

Behind him (from left to right): Montreal Mayor Pierre Bourque, Ida LaBillois of the Montreal friendship centre, Stacy Hill of the Aboriginal Youth Council and Wayne Helgason from the National Association of Friendship Centres.



Nothing is forever

"I like to hear the stories of older people I know. They have decades of life experience and tell me about times and places I know nothing about."

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BY XAVIER KATAQUAPIT

Growing old does not look like a lot of fun. I find it difficult to watch my parents, my uncles and aunts, and my grandmother getting older every year.

Many times when I talk to the older people in our family, they tell me about their aches and pains and health problems. This is not something I am looking forward to.

I guess in kind of like a child-like fantasy way, I want everybody to stay young, strong and healthy. I want to think I can always see them happy and full of life. I suppose there can be something beautiful in growing old gracefully, but as I watch the old ones heading further to the end of the path it makes me sad to see them succumbing to arthritis, diabetes and heart problems.

On the other hand, I am learning that there seems to be a wisdom and contentment that comes over people in their later years. Older people seem to always have the time to sit and talk. They seem to have a different outlook on life after having survived so many years. They don't seem to be as wrapped up in the daily details of getting on with life, but more they have a perspective that the little things should not upset people.

I like to hear the stories of older people I know. They have decades of life experience and tell me about times and places I know nothing about. I also learn a lot from my Elders and I try to take advice in a good way.

Sometimes I find pictures of the Elders I know that show them as children. I find it so strange to see these people I know now who are at the dawn of their life in slim young bodies and with bright eyes in a time and place long ago. I wonder what it would be like to know them as younger people. Would we have been good friends? What would we have done together?

It seems like the older people get, the more mellow and understanding they are. Most old people are a real joy to be around and that is especially true for those who have their health. There seems to be something unfair about growing old. It is almost as though the concept of old age is with us to make life more interesting. Still, sometimes I wish all the old people in my life could just stop time and continue to be around as I prefer to remember them, happy, in good shape and with no end in sight.

THE CRISIS

NINE YEARS LATER

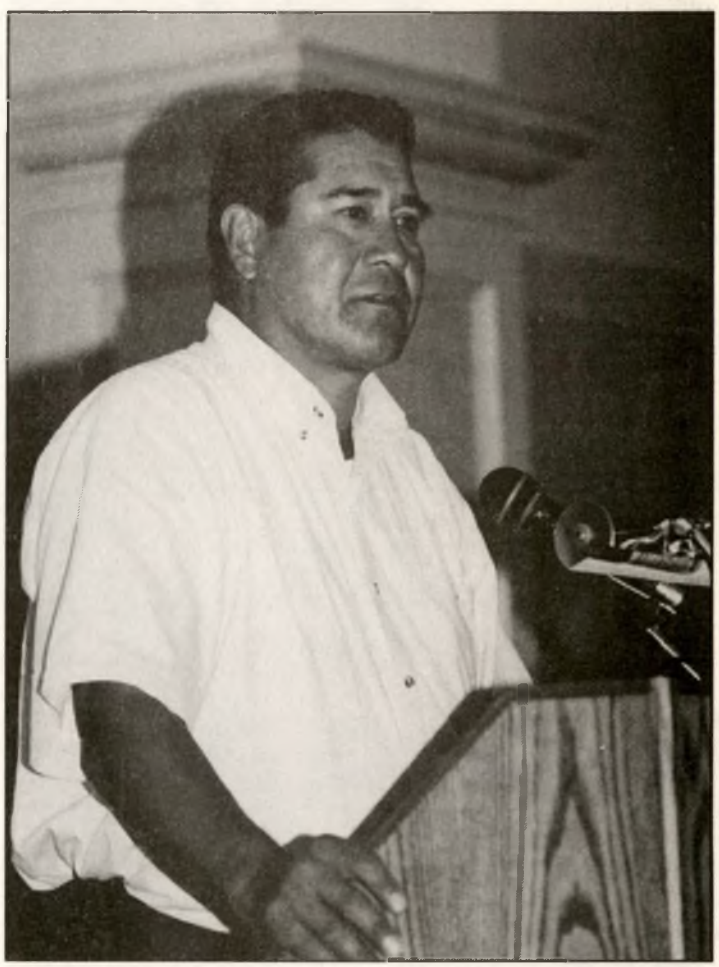
BY KENNETH DEER

Every year at this time we are reminded of the events of 1990. The news articles in local and national newspapers, the stories on the television news and the Spiritual Gathering in Kanehsatake all keep the memories of that year alive. In Kahnawake, our own Echoes of a Proud Nation Pow-Wow was started to commemorate the summer of '90.

While some view the Crisis as a fight for power, cigarettes and casinos, they are wrong. It was a fight over land. I can remember my first night in The Pines. I was sent there on July 11 as a negotiator. I met men in fatigues who were still masked or wore camouflage paint on their faces. I could not recognize them all but most of them knew who I was.

They greeted me in passing and some stopped to say a few words. As I listened to the voices, I recognized some of them. These were young men, younger than I was in any case, who I thought did not have a political bone in their body. These were not casino supporters or cigarette runners but men who, through circumstances and necessity, came to The Pines to defend the land.

Some were past residents of the Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centre known as the TC. They had a close affinity to The Pines since the centre is situated there. I knew some of these men when they were just high school students just a few years earlier.



Talking with them that night and the following days, they told me why they were there. It was still a very tense time. There was always the threat that the SQ would try to come back into The Pines again. The men and women were under the threat of attack at any time. Because of this threat, they were very open to discuss why they were willing to face arrest, prosecution or even death. They were adamant about their cause. They were there to protect the land. There was no doubt about that. I came away convinced that the people inside the barricades were sincere and clear on the objectives.

Those five days behind the barricades at Kanehsatake still remain with me. The issue was the land, and no one can change my mind that it was anything else. True, there are some who tried to make the point that other agendas and personalities were behind the events of 1990, but people were not going to risk their lives for those. It was the land there was worth fighting for.

Today we are still seeing the results of the conflict. The Royal Commission, the rush to settle land claims and the recent creation of Nunavut in the far north are a direct result of the Crisis. Canada had to prove to the world that it can make major land settlements after the embarrassment of 1990. In the aftermath, the government began negotiating in earnest with the Inuit.

Without the Crisis of 1990, there would not be a Nunavut today.

Mohawk takes gold at Pan-Am Games

Waneek Horn, of the Kahnawake Mohawk Territory, and co-captain of the Canadian Women's National Water Polo Team, helped lead her team to win a gold medal at the Pan American Games just held in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

They won all their games, along with the gold medal game against the United States on July 30. Waneek scored three goals.

Waneek, 23, is the youth representative on the board of the Canadian Alliance in Solidarity with the Native Peoples, and has been prominently involved in Native youth issues most of her life, including being at the compound in Oka that was surrounded by the Canadian army in 1990. She was allegedly stabbed in the chest by a soldier while protecting her 4-year-old sister. She carries a scar over her heart from this attack.

But she managed to put it all behind her. Waneek just finished Carleton University with a degree in political science and at the same time went on to develop into one of the world's best water polo players.

She is currently fundraising for her trip to Australia for the Olympic Games in the year 2000. For more info call (450) 638-9659.

Plutonium would be Canada's forever

The Canadian government is pushing hard behind closed doors to bring in highly radioactive plutonium from the U.S. and Russia.

Senior Canadian officials have promised the United States that surplus plutonium from Russian and U.S. weapons used in Ontario nuclear reactors will remain in Canada forever.

A government document indicates that if Canada starts using plutonium as fuel in its generating stations, the country will become the permanent repository for some of the most dangerous waste products from the nuclear-arms race.

Yet, Canada has not been able to develop a long-term storage site for atomic waste from its own generating stations.

Canada has been negotiating with First Nations to allow the storage of nuclear waste deep in the Canadian Shield.

Canada wants to import weapons-grade plutonium left over from up to 40,000 surplus nuclear bombs as fuel at Ontario Power Generation's Bruce A nuclear station.

Canadian atomic plants usually use uranium but could, with a few design modifications, use plutonium.

The U.S. was worried the nuclear waste would end up in terrorist hands. But Canada is working hard to reassure U.S. officials that won't happen.

Another government document says the percentage of plutonium in the spent weapons-grade fuel will be 68 per cent higher than if regular uranium were used.

The federal government has been lobbying aggressively for five years to have Canada burn as much as 100 tonnes of surplus plutonium in Ontario reactors.

Ontario Hydro may be starting to have second thoughts about the idea.

-SOURCE: TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL

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H3A 1W7

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101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy belated birthday to a father of mine who was celebrating his birthday in Waskaganish on May 18. I hope you did enjoy your birthday without drinking. Anyways, happy belated birthday and thanks for everything. And I love you just the way you are. You're the best, dad. From your daughter. P.S. too bad for you, your birthday wasn't on the weekend. You should take a day off a Northern (joke)

Happy birthday to our daughter Joy Matoush on June 22,. Through happy times and hard time... Joy... We will always be there for you. Enjoy your day! We love you very much! Love, mom and dad.

Happy belated birthday to my brother in Montreal, Darryl Saganash on July 14th. No words can say how much you mean to me. I love you and miss you. Happy birthday and many more years to come. Love always, Virginia Saganash (Mistissini)

I would like to wish my second mother Mary Blacksmith Dixon a happy birthday on July 14. It is your birthday on this day I want you to know that you're very special person to me. You always be my mother no matter what. Thank you for being my mother and always being there for me. I love you! Love, Lee Belle B. (Oujebougoumou)xxxxxxxxx.

A happy birthday to my lovely daughter Hillary Kitty. She will be celebrating her 11th birthday on July 8. Love always, mom Caroline and God bless you.

A happy 7th birthday to our little bro Chris Carlo Brien (Beegaboo) on July. We want you to know how special you are to house. We were so glad to see you so happy on your birthday party that we gave you. Many more years to come. We love you very much. From your only sister Valentina and in brother Peterson Brien.

Birthday greetings going out to Oliver Jolly from Nemaska on July 14. I wanted you to know that you hold a special placing my heart and always. I love you and I am very thankful to have you as a best friend and as a father to our two sons, Curtis and Zachary. Throughout the years you have been therefore maintain good and bad times and shown me what love is all about. I thank God for answering my special prayer, I asked him to send me one of his angels and he said you to be with me. You are my true love, and I will always be here for you. Love always, Louise.

A happy belated birthday to Maggie Mary Ann Longchap on June 28 and to Tyson Silas on July 12. They happy birthday is wished for you two. With lots of fun and cheer. And hope for a grand celebration. It's your special day of the year. You were born of a special love between your mother and father. That gift of love was sent by God. He gave us love for one another. The birth of a child is a blessing, it's a miracle! A joy to behold! When that child is raised in love, a special person does unfold! You are the special person as you celebrate you're birth today. A gift of love, that's what you are. Heaven send you here that day. With lots of love, William and Annie.

Happy birthday to someone I dearly love, Jimmy Blacksmith, on July 2. I realize how much you mean to me and how important you are in my life. I also enjoy being with you to share our good times, our thoughts and feelings with each other because each day we are together. I love you. Love always, Maggie Matoush.

Happy 18th birthday to my brother Jonathan Matoush on June 21. I wish you the best in life and I hope you'll have a great time on your birthday. From your sister Maggie Matoush.

A birthday wish to someone special in our lives, our daughter Andrea MB on the 20th of June. Happy 2nd birthday Andrea. You are the most important person in our lives. We enjoy being with you to share are good Times with you because we love you so much. Love always, Mommy and Daddy. Maggie Matoush and Jimmy Blacksmith.

Happy 15th birthday to

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my friends Greta Rupert and Joanna Pachano on July fifth and Julianna Louttit on July 14. Hope you girls have a great time and don't party Okay. Friend always, double (C). Chisasibi.

Happy birthday to you, a belated one. Happy birthday to our No. 1 uncle in Waskaganish. His birthday was on April 30. Sorry it's late, but at least we didn't forget your birthday. We hope you did enjoy your birthday in the Bush. We love you uncle. Anyways, happy belated birthday., nieces and nephews. xxxoxoxo. Waskaganish

Happy birthday to the best fiddler of the Cree Nation, Byron Jonah, on June 18. I know this is late, but I just wanted to say that I hope you had a good time on your birthday. I love you with every beat of my heart. Love always, Isabelle, and the little fiddler on the way!

Happy belated birthday to my best friend and cousin on July 1st. I guess you had a good and wonderful time on your special day. I just wanted to tell you how truly grateful I am to have you as my best friend and someone I can trust. I want to thank you for always being therefore made whenever I need a friend. Happy belated 21st birthday. With love in friendship, your cousin. Waskaganish.

Happy birthday to my brother Patrick on June 11. I want to say good luck to your hockey school and play smart. P.S. how fun on your birthday. From sis Amanda W.

Happy birthday to Kerri-Ann Hughboy on June 8 and to Dale Howard on June 14. May you both have a special birthday., From 7 Wachanagan. Wemindji.

Happy belated birthday to my daddy Ernest Jolly in Waskaganish on May 18. I love you dad and thanks for everything. I do know what I will do without you. Anyways, happy belated birthday. Also happy belated birthday to my uncle James Jolly Sr. on April 30. I love you both so much. From Brittany Rosyna Faye Jolly. Waskaganish.

I want to wish my son Sylvester Shecapio a happy second birthday on May 28. I love you so much son. I hope I'll see you on your birthday. I miss you so much. Love always, your mom. And I want to wish my sister Juliet Masty on May 26 in Whap. I still don't know when I will come to visit. I hope someday. Bye. Happy birthday and take care of yourself. Don't even think of partying on your birthday. And happy belated Mother's Day. From your sister in Mistissini.

Happy birthday to my aunt in Mistissini, Cynthia. Her birthday is on June 13. Happy birthday to you. From your nephew Sebastien S.N. And your niece Sarah Neeposh. P.S. don't need to much cake. Just blow out your candles.

Happy birthday to my b/f Joey Blacksmith on June 21. I hope you get smarter and go back to school. Anyways, have a happy birthday. Love always, Amanda.

Happy 4th belated birthday to a sweet little girl, Christine Jacob-Fedora on July 2. Remember your growing prettier every year and we love you with all our hearts. Love always, William, Donna, Mindy, Beverly, badly, Sherry, Wendy and Kelly Georgekish (Waskaganish) P.S. good luck in your first year in school. The

For Hazel Gunner in Mistissini. Happy 17th birthday on July 4. I want you to know how grateful I am to have you as a friend. Hope you have a great time on your birthday and many more to come. Thanks for always being there for me. Friend always, Valentina Brien.

Happy 18th birthday to my uncle Jonathan Matoush on the 21st June. I love you. From your want and only niece, Andrea Jacqueline Annie Juness M. Blacksmith.

I want to wish my sister Rosanna Gail Matoush a happy 16th birthday on July 22. I promise I will not bug you on your birthday. I love you very much and thank you for taking care of me (without complaining) when mom and dad are away. Love, your little brother Shayne.

Birthday wishes going out to my dear friend Lena A. Bosum on July 26. It takes more than words to let you know how much means to me to have you as a friend. I can depend a new for understanding when I am confused. I can depend on you for comfort when I'm sad. I can depend on you for laughter when I am happy. I am so thankful to know that you are always my friend. Thank you for being there are through the good times and the bad. Remember Gracy, best friends forever (remember?) I hate to hear that guy when he says that. From your friend, fellow LBB (Oujebougoumou)

Birthday wishes going out to Alysia Pet on May 2 and to Hailey Wabiguin on May 27. Happy belated birthday girls and many more. Enjoy your birthdays because they only come once the year. With love, Stephanie and Frances. xoxoxoxo.

This goes out to Andrea my Mamianscum, wishing her a happy belated birthday on June 7 returned 17. Sorry I didn't send it out earlier at least I did. I hope you had a great time on your birthday. From your friend Nian Moses (St. Adolphe)

Wishing a very happy birthday on June 27 to Alexandra(Jeets).Hope you are having an exciting summer. Can't think of anything else to say, except to behave yourself and keep your nose clean. How 'bout that 'tornado'! Happiness always, from Isabelle and Byron Jones

I want to wish my grandmother Dinah Loon a happy birthday on June 22. You will always be special to me. Love, April Joylene Loon.

Happy birthday to my friends in Waskaganish. Jasmine on July 11. Bella Jolly on July 12. I hope you have a great time. From a friend in

Waskaganish. P.S. don't party too much.

A happy belated birthday to a very special person in my life, my boyfriend David Wapachee on May 31. I am very thankful to have someone who cares, someone who is always there for me, someone who understands my feelings, someone who always listens to what I have to say, someone who shares in my laughter and tears. I am grateful that I met someone wonderful like you. I would never trade you and no other love can take your place because nothing could be better. I love you always, every night and they... I just want everyone to see that I'm happy with you and with is where I want to be. Once again, happy birthday. With love, Melinda Georgekish.

Happy 12th birthday to a very sweet girl named Melanie Doreen matches on June 14, 1999. May your day be as special as you are. With love, mom, dad, Colleen, Eric Jr., Leroy and Darryl. Wemindji.

Happy 18th birthday to Kelly Moses on May 21. From 7 Wachanagan. P.S. kiss Calvin for us. Wemindji.

Happy belated birthday to each of our cousins, Hazel Weapenicappo on June 11, and Betsy Weapenicappo on July 14. From Alexandra and Isabelle(Wemindji)

I would like to wish my older brother Donovan Moses a happy birthday. He will be turning 26 on July 28. Thanks for being there for me Don. I really love you with all my heart. May all your wishes come true. Keep your head up for your studies. Never give up! From your one and only sister Nian Moses. xox. St. Adolphe.

I would like to wish my cousin Kelly Moses A. happy 18th birthday on May 21. I wish you the best in the years to come. Love in friendship, Colleen. P.S. kiss Calvin for me and take really good care of him. Wemindji.

Happy birthday to my one AND only nephew who will be celebrating his first birthday and Waskaganish on Aug. 17, Brent James. I wish you all the best. I hope you had a great time on your first birthday. From someone who does you very much! In Waskaganish.

Happy 17th birthday to Eric Matches Jr. on June 3rd. We love you very much and we miss you a lot. Especially your jokes.

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Love, mom and dad, Colleen, Leroy, Melanie and Darryl. P.S. we are you have lots of fun on your special day..

Wishing happy birthday to our son JONATHAN JAMES LOON on July 9 1999 hope you have a wonderful day. I can still remember the day you were born the min I saw your small face. I love you so much. we will be there for you always. Love, hugs and kisses. DAD, Gordon, MOM, Emily, Justice, Joel, Noah and baby Rachel Loon.

Happy birthday to Francine Weistche on May 30th and may cherish each moment on that special day , make a wish when you will blow the candles. God bless you. From your friend Irene Mianscum.

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! Another June Birthday celebrations for Eliza, Eleanor, Gordon and June Moar. SHOUT IT TO THE EAST, SHOUT IT TO THE WEST. COME ON WORLD LET'S GIVE THEM THE BEST.

I'd like to send a birthday greeting to my niece who will be celebrating her 4th birthday on may 27. Happy birthday Valerie. Wow, your already 4 years old. Have fun on your special day. Remember girl, Anytime you need a baby sitter. I'm there for you. Once again happy birthday Valerie. Love always your best friend and auntie Laura Wapachee. xox (Nem)

I want to wish my mom Joy Matoush a happy birthday on June 22. Mom, I love you very much! Love, your precio.. Angel, April Joylene.

300-PERSONALS

I Nannie Iserhoff (mother) living at 323 Mistissini Boulevard, Mistissini Lake will present at Directeur de L'etat Civil, asking to change the name Samuel Andrew Blacksmith to Victor Samuel Andrew Blacksmith. Nannie Iserhoff.

Are alcohol and drugs destroying your life? Do you want to help yourself? Maybe we can help. We are alcoholics anonymous. We meet in Mistissini on Saturday evenings, 8 p.m., in the basement of St. John's Anglican church.

Seeking email pen pals. Males or females, doesn't matter. I am a female. Just right to me at my email address,Guess_me@hotmail.com. Just tell me about yourself and I'll tell you above myself when I write back. I promised to respond soon! Hope you write to me!

Hello to the worlds greatest uncle who is in O.J., Harold Steve Marshall? So, when are you're coming back to Waskaganish? We really miss you so much. And we can wait to see you. Hope you come back soon. From your or nephew and niece all away from Waskaganish, Elston Lee and Kelsie.

Hi to someone I really care about her name is E.A.DIAMOMD its nice to know that your smile is always there your such a funny person to that's what I really like about you and remember no matter what happens ill always care ???? you ok from you know who 10.4.2

I just want to let my brother know I really miss him a lot, Harold Jolly, who is in O.J.. Take care of yourself. I love and miss you very much. From your sister who cares a lot about you. Hope to see you soon. B. J.

From a friend in Waswanipi. Jessica I. and I would like to say I miss you to my friends in Oujebougoumou, Andrea and especially her baby Maih. Hope to say both soon from Jessica I.

Hi to my friends in Mistissini, Veronica L. hope to see you soon and my friends in Nemaska. PW, CW, ET and especially Gloria Tanoush. Hope to see you all soon!

Your friendship is a special part of my life... I just have to laugh when I think of some of the things we've been together. They wouldn't have been half the fun with anyone else but you. I love to think above those times and all the moments I spend with you... even the difficult times that we helped each other through. I wouldn't trade one single memory for anything in this world because there's so much part of my life... And so are you. I want you to know how much I appreciate your friendship and I miss your laugh too. That this why I'm sending you this poem for you to remember and to laugh I guess. So take care of yourself. Love, IBM.

Hello! To Cindy Debassige, Louise Neeposh, Jimmy and Lizzie Etapp, Joe Neeposh, Dennis and Gloria Coon Come, Larry and Maria Macleod, Harry Coonishish, Claude Shecapio, Dolores and Tony Coonishish, Lillain Coonishish. Shirley and John Petawabano, Melvin Rabbitskin, Rennie Coon Come, John Gunner, John and Darlene Shecapio, Phillip and Janie Shecapio, Michael and Lucy Longchap, Norman, Laurie-Ann and Gregory Whiskeychan, Louie Mianscum, Leslie Mianscum, Dennis Coon, Mabel Voyageur, and Willie K. Gunner. And a big hello to Roderick Petawabano. Mistissini. Bye!

A big hello to my buddies in Nemaska: Gloria Tanoush, Laura W., Noreen W., Priscilla J., Jessica W., Sharon B. and Tera. Hope to see you girls soon! Take care of yourselves. From Valentina Brien.

Where in the world are you? I haven't heard my friend in a long time and his name is Christopher Shem. Hope everything goes well for you. Take care of yourself. Love in friendship, your bud.

Hi to Nina Metabie in Mistissini. Longtime no talk. So, Nina, how's it going? How's life in Mistissini? Maybe I'll see you soon, just maybe. From Lori Chakapash in Chisasibi

600-LOVERS AND SECRET ADMIRERS

To Amsterdam and London: Here we cooooooooome!!!!!!!!!

To Rhonda: Hi! From AR

To Richard: Hey bud! From Alex

To Will: You're soooo lucky we didn't put that classified in here man.

To Neil: uh.

To Sylvia: ditto

To mom and dad: Love ya.

To Linda: Have a nice vacation. Don't worry about the cheque book.

"My Dream for the Future Calendar"

Year 2000

Beesum Communications and the Nation Magazine are proud to present My Dream For The Future Calendar: Year 2000. For this Calendar, we are asking you to share your dreams. Each month will feature you, yes, it could be you. If you want a photo of yourself and your dream for the future to be featured in one of the months in the new calendar we ask that you continue the following sentence. (max. 150 words) Suggested topics: How you see yourself in the future, Cree Culture in the future... etc.

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Please include your name, age and phone number with each response. Thank You.

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